

Preliminary Amendment

Page 2 of 9

Applicant(s): Baumann et al.

Serial No. Unknown (Parent Serial No. 10/109,804)

Filed: Herewith (Parent: March 28, 2002)

For: DECK ASSEMBLY FOR A SELF-PROPELLED, WALK-BEHIND ROTARY LAWN MOWER

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 3 (immediately after the title):

This is a division of application Serial No. 10/109,804, filed March 28, 2002, (pending), which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 9, with the following amended paragraph.

The engine 111 is preferably oriented such that its crankshaft 112 (see Figure 6) extends vertically downward into a generally cylindrically shaped cutting chamber 114 defined at least in part by the deck 108 as shown in Figure 2. A cutting member, e.g., a cutting blade 116, may attach to an end of the crankshaft 112 by way of a blade coupler assembly 118, an exemplary embodiment of which is described in more detail in copending U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/109,808 _____ (~~Attorney docket 206.00290101~~), entitled "BLADE COUPLER ASSEMBLY FOR USE WITH A SELF-PROPELLED, WALK-BEHIND ROTARY LAWN MOWER, filed on even date herewith. During operation, the crankshaft 112 rotates the blade coupler assembly 118, and thus the cutting blade 116, at a speed sufficient (e.g., at about 2400 to 3000 revolutions per minute) to sever grass and other vegetation over which the mower 100 passes.